

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated October 5, 2005. Claims 1 and 4-7 are pending, with claims 1 and 7 being in independent form. Claims 2, 3, 8 and 9 were previously canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. By this Amendment, independent claims 1 and 7 have been amended to clarify the claimed invention.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,680,158 to Yoshida et al. in view of German Published Application No. DE 29 22006 A1 (Plehn). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over Yoshida in view of Plehn and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0174231 A1 (Surloff). Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Yoshida in view of Plehn and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,523,754 to Eisen et al. Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Yoshida in view of Plehn and further in view of Surloff and Eisen. Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,253,940 to Abecassis in view of Plehn.

Applicant has carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submits that claims 1 and 7 as amended are patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

This application relates to improvements to a communication device having a keyboard or numeric keypad which allow a user of the communication device to readily change a character layout of the keyboard or numeric keypad. In particular, the improved communication device allows the user to select one from a plurality of one-touch-keyboard key-map tables (in the case that the communication device has a keyboard, such as in claim 1) or from a plurality of numeric-

keypad key-map tables (in the case that the communication device has a numeric keypad, such as in claim 7). Each key-map table stores a distinctly separate correspondence relation between key codes and character codes for a keyboard or keypad arrangement. A reading unit reads the user-selected key-map table, and a recording/outputting unit creates image data to be recorded on a label based on the read key-map table, records an image corresponding to the created image data on the label, and outputs the label on which the image is recorded, so that the label is applied to a one-touch dial keyboard portion of the keyboard or to the numeric keypad. Since the label on which the image of the one-touch keyboard or numeric keypad is output by the communication device, the user can smoothly input the literal information on the communication device.

Yoshida, as understood by Applicant, is directed to a communication device in which the predetermined keyboard character layout is selected by a user from among a plurality of predetermined keyboard character layouts.

Plehn, as understood by Applicant, is directed to a recording/outputting unit creating image data to be recorded on a label.

However, Applicant does not find teaching or suggestion in Yoshida or in Plehn of reading a one-touch-keyboard key-map table corresponding to a user selection from among a plurality of one-touch-keyboard key-map tables each storing a distinctly separate correspondence relation between key codes and character codes for a character arrangement, creating image data to be recorded on a label based on the read one-touch-keyboard key-map table, recording an image corresponding to the created image data on the label, and outputting the label on which the image is recorded, so that the label is applied to a one-touch dial keyboard portion of the keyboard, as provided by the claimed invention of amended claim 1.

Abecassis, as understood by Applicant, is directed to a user selectable numeric keycaps

layout. In particular, Abecassis proposes allowing a user to select and set the layout of the keypad as between (i) a 123 layout such as can be found in telephone devices, or (ii) a 789 layout such as utilized in many calculators.

However, Applicant does not find teaching or suggestion in Abecassis or in Plehn of reading a numeric-keypad key-map table corresponding to a user selection from among a plurality of numeric-keypad key-map tables each storing a distinctly separate correspondence relation between key codes and character codes for a numeric-keypad arrangement, creating image data to be recorded on a label based on the read numeric-keypad key-map table, recording an image corresponding to the created image data on the label, and outputting the label on which the image is recorded, so that the label is applied to the numeric keypad, as provided by the claimed invention of amended claim 7.

The remaining references were cited as purportedly disclosing features recited in the dependent claims of this application.

Surloff, as understood by Applicant, is directed to a simplified technique for enabling users of computers coupled to the internet to access e-commerce web sites and purchase goods and services from the web sites. Surloff proposes incorporating the technique in a computer keyboard.

Eisen, as understood by Applicant, is directed to a method and apparatus for automatically reconfiguring a keyboard input device to support the appropriate language when moving from computer software application to another computer software application on a desktop.

Applicant does not find disclosure or suggestion in the cited art, however, of (a) a communication device comprising a keyboard and means for reading a one-touch-keyboard key-map table corresponding to a user selection from among a plurality of one-touch-keyboard key-

map tables each storing a distinctly separate correspondence relation between key codes and character codes for a character arrangement, creating image data to be recorded on a label based on the read one-touch-keyboard key-map table, recording an image corresponding to the created image data on the label, and outputting the label on which the image is recorded, so that the label is applied to a one-touch dial keyboard portion of the keyboard, as provided by the claimed invention of independent claim 1, or (b) a communication device comprising a numeric keypad and means for reading a numeric-keypad key-map table corresponding to a user selection from among a plurality of numeric-keypad key-map tables each storing a distinctly separate correspondence relation between key codes and character codes for a numeric-keypad arrangement, creating image data to be recorded on a label based on the read numeric-keypad key-map table, recording an image corresponding to the created image data on the label, and outputting the label on which the image is recorded, so that the label is applied to the numeric keypad, as provided by the claimed invention of independent claim 7.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 7, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art.

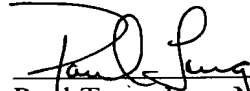
In view of the amendments to the claims and remarks hereinabove, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits the allowance of the application.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is

respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Teng", is written over a horizontal line.

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